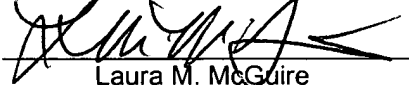


<b>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</b>	
<b>PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</b>	Atty. Docket No. (Opt.) <b>UBAT1310-1</b>
Applicants: <b>Vladimir I. Merkulov et al.</b>	
Application Number <b>Unknown</b>	Filed <b>November 4, 2003</b>
For: <b>Carbon Tips with Expanded Bases</b>	
Group Art Unit <b>Unknown</b>	Confirmation Number: <b>Unknown</b>

**MAILSTOP Patent Application**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

<p align="center"><b><u>Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.10</u></b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV338102665US to Addressee in an envelope addressed to: Mailstop: Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <b>November 17, 2003.</b></p> <p align="center">           Laura M. McGuire       </p>
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Please enter this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the Divisional application. Please amend the Application as follows: